

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SCA-01 SCS-03 PER-01

MMO-01 PPT-01 VO-03 DRC-01 SY-05 ABF-01 FS-01 /044 W

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R 280928Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3168

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, CGEN, LE

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR RESUMPTION OF FULL CONSULAR SERVICES

1. ONE CONSULAR OFFICER (STAPLETON) HAS ALREADY RETURNED TO BEIRUT. SECOND (RUSSELL) WILL ARRIVE FEB 27. THIRD (BUDIET) IS EXPECTED IN MID-MARCH. FULL SERVICES FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS ARE BEING PROVIDED. FULL NIV SERVICES WERE RESUMED ON FEB 22.

2. EMBASSY PROPOSES RESUME FULL IV SERVICES APR 1, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS OUTLINED BELOW. FOLLOWING IS SCHEDULE FOR RETURN OF UNCLASSIFIED VISA FILES AND RESTAFFING VISA SECTION WITH LOCAL EMPLOYEES NOW ON TDY IN ANTICIPATION THIS DEVELOPMENT. ADDRESSEES MUST APPRECIATE THAT SCHEDULE IS OF COURSE DEPENDENT ON CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT IN SECURITY SITUATION IN LEBANON AND CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THREE CONSULAR OFFICERS.

3. FOR DEPARTMENT AND ATHENS: EMBASSY BELIEVES
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UNCLASSIFIED BEIRUT VISA FILES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN SECTION PRIOR TO APRIL 1 IF IV SERVICES TO BE RESUMED. WE REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE IN RETURN OF FILES TO BEIRUT AS SOON AS THEY CAN BE PACKED AND SHIPPED. BEIRUT FSL'S ANSERIAN AND KABBANI SHOULD RETURN BEIRUT AS SOON AS PACKING OF FILES COMPLETE. ONCE UNCLASSIFIED FILES ARE BACK, WE INTEND TO REQUEST RETURN

OF CLASSIFIED VISA FILES, ASSUMING SECURITY SITUATION
CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.

4. IF PRE-JUNE 1967 BAGHDAD UNCLASSIFIED VISA FILES
STILL IN ATHENS, BELIEVE THESE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE
SENT BEIRUT SINCE IN VIEW UNSETTLED CONDITIONS IN
LEBANON, IT IS MOST UNLIKELY RESIDENTS OF IRAQ WILL
WISH PURSUE IV CASES HERE.

5. FOR NICOSIA: SERVICES OF FSL APOSHIAN REQUIRED
ONCE AGAIN IN BEIRUT. REQUEST RETURN AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

FOR DAMASCUS: EXPECT MAJOR PART LEBANESE IV DEMAND
WILL CONTINUE BE PROCESSED IN DAMASCUS UNTIL IV
SERVICES RESUMED IN BEIRUT IN APRIL. PROPOSE THEREFORE
FSL'S JAMAL AND HANNAOUI REMAIN ON TDY DAMASCUS UNTIL
LATE MARCH. WOULD APPRECIATE IF BOTH COULD BE RELEASED
FOR RETURN WORK BEIRUT MARCH 28.

7. FOR THE DEPARTMENT: CONSULAR OFFICER STAPLETON, WHO HAS NOT
HAD HOME LEAVE SINCE HIS INITIAL ARRIVAL IN BEIRUT IN APRIL,
1973, WOULD LIKE TO DEPART ON REASSIGNMENT O/A APRIL 1,
AFTER OVERLAP WITH BUDEIT. WE UNDERSTAND STAPLETON'S
REPLACEMENT HAS ALREADY BEEN IDENTIFIED. SINCE
PRESENCE OF THREE CONSULAR OFFICERS IS ESSENTIAL FOR
OPERATION OF FULL CONSULAR SERVICES, WOULD APPRECIATE
DEPARTMENT'S CONFIRMATION THAT STAPLETON'S REPLACEMENT
CAN ARRIVE IN 4/77. SINCE STAPLETON'S NEXT ASSIGNMENT
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WILL BE IN DEPT, REQUEST EXCEPTION TO 15-DAY LIMITATION
ON H/L. (HE HAS ABOUT 80 DAYS ACCUMULATED.)

8. REQUEST ACTION ADDRESSEES CONFIRM AGREEMENT WITH
PROPOSED SCHEDULE.
PARKER

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